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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,174	07/10/2001	Inga Laursen	0459-0636P	8992
2292	7590	01/04/2005	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			SAUNDERS, DAVID A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1644	

DATE MAILED: 01/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 902,174	Applicant(s) LAURSEN et al
Examiner SAUNDERS	Group Art Unit 1644

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/27/04 & 9/13/04
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-8, 10-17 and 19 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-8, 10-14, 16-17 and 19 is/are allowed.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- ☒ Claim(s) 15 is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/13/04 (an IDS) has been entered.

The IDS filed on 8/27/04 shall also be considered. Lined out references on the IDS of 9/13/04 are of record on form 1449, filed 7/10/01, or on form 892, mailed 11/27/02.

The following correction pertains to the previous office action mailed one 3/30/04: at page 2, line 13 "3/29/03" should read as --3/29/04--.

The claims are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 15 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 1. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Instantly the examiner finds no difference in the recitations of claims 1 and 15 except in their preamble. The only substantial difference between the preambles is that, after "process for purifying immunoglobulin", claim 1 further recites "i.e, immunoglobulin G (Ig G)". This added limitation, however, sets forth no difference that would distinguish the scope of claim 1 from that of claim 15. Steps c) -l) of claims 1 and 15 each recite

Art Unit: 1644

that "immunoglobulin G" is being recovered, washed, eluted, or concentrated. Thus the process of both claims 1 and 15 is drawn to the preparation of an immunoglobulin G containing solution. The examiner does not find any embodiment of one claim that would not be encompassed by the other.

The following references submitted with the IDS of 9/13/04 are noted as of particular interest:

- 1) Andersson et al show essentially the steps recited in instant claims 1, 13 and 15; however Andersson et al do not show both an anion exchange and cation exchange after the viral inactivation step. The reference is also scant in its teachings of contaminant levels.
- 2) The GAMMAGARD brochure shows a highly purified IgG; the presence of glycine, albumin and PEG (Table at bottom of page 4 of translation) is not consistent with instant claims 1, 13 and 15. The 0.6% concentration of polymers (Table at page 5 of translation) is not consistent with instant claim 3.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David A. Saunders, PhD whose telephone number is 571-272-0849. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00a.m to 5:30p.m. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan, can be reached on 571-272-0841. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Saunders/tgd

December 13, 2004

David A. Saunders
DAVID SAUNDERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 102-1644